

SOME GOSPEL TRUTHS

Enunciated From the Various Washington Pulpits Yesterday.

First Sermon of the New Pastor of the Metropolitan M. E. Church.

Thoroughness as Expounded by the Rev. Dr. Bartlett at the New York Avenue Church.

Rev. Dr. Rankin's Sermon—Indian Missions and Other Missionary Exercises.

LET US GO FORWARD.

REV. DR. E. D. HUNTLEY, FIRST SERMON AT THE METROPOLITAN M. E. CHURCH.

The Rev. Dr. E. D. Huntley, late president of Lawrence University, Wisconsin, who was transferred by the Baltimore conference to the pastorate of the Metropolitan M. E. church of this city, preached his first sermon before a large congregation in that edifice yesterday morning. Dr. Huntley is a large, well-proportioned gentleman of middle age. He has a pleasant voice, and speaks rapidly and fluently.

He took his text from Exodus, xiv, 15: "Speak unto the children of Israel that they go forward." Dr. Huntley said that the text exhorted Moses for having brought them out of Egypt. He was greatly surprised as they were at the turn of events. No one could have imagined that Pharaoh would attempt to bring them back to bondage after the experiences which had preceded their departure. The magicians had been convinced that God was fighting for the Israelites in the plagues. Pharaoh's chief men had been convinced and had begged him to let the children of Israel go. He yielded at first only so far as to consent that the men should go and sacrifice to their God, while the women and children should remain behind. But to this condition Moses would not accede until at length Pharaoh not only permitted them to go with their wives and their little ones, their flocks and their herds, but he urged them to depart lest God in his wrath should slay all the Egyptians.

After such an experience it is doubtful whether any one would have dreamed that Pharaoh would follow the Israelites and take them again into bondage. But so it was; and in their terror it was natural for the fugitives to turn to Moses and plead him for relief. "What could he do? He had as yet received no word from God as to how he should carry himself in this emergency, and would it not have been natural for him to have construed the circumstances as a command?" The Israelites were God's chosen people, and if Moses had interpreted the circumstances into a command of God he might have reasoned that he who had wrought miracles in their behalf when they were in actual bondage now that they had been led out would expect them to show their appreciation of liberty and themselves to be worthy of it by fighting for it. He was, and so at least to co-operate with the Divine emancipation and retain by arms, supplemented it might be by continued miraculous assistance, that freedom which had been given by the Almighty. But Moses had not given commands to make preparations for the coming of God on high. Neither did he propose to command the children of Israel without first making inquiry of his God. He knew, for he had God's word for it, that should they get to the land of Canaan, but he did not know the road, nor the experiences by which they should be led. So he said, "Stand still and see the salvation of God, which He shall work for you this day for the Egyptians. Whom ye have seen this day ye shall see them again no more forever. God shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace."

Here we see something of the character of Moses. In an emergency, having no specific orders, he rested on a general promise. He did not allow the people to be scattered by fright, and he did not, contrary to the text, turn upon their foes. The first would have shown a lack of faith; the second would have been presuming on the miracles God must work in order to preserve the people. He yielded to neither of the temptations. Not knowing the mind of God, he simply assured the people that God would fight for them, and he encouraged them to stand still and see salvation. Then he turned to God and cried until at length the Jehovah gave the command, "Speak to the children of Israel that they go forward."

The history connected with this text teaches many lessons. God's children should not be frightened by dangers nor discouraged by difficulties. There are dangers and difficulties threatening the church today. We are to be made use of. By the right use of them they shall develop both individual and denominational Christian character. Whatever is before us when the order comes from God to go forward our business is to go. We can find enough enemies in the world to go to promptly, for prompt action takes advantage of present opportunities. Prompt action in taking advantage of present opportunities becomes an enthusiasm which renders the action pleasant and leads us to form the habit of looking for opportunities for the performance of such action. Let us go forward also cheerfully, and God will help us to overcome our enemies as he assisted the Israelites to overcome theirs.

THOROUGHNESS.

REV. DR. BARTLETT'S SERMON AT THE NEW YORK AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Rev. Dr. Bartlett preached yesterday morning from Hebrews, fourth chapter, twelfth verse. In substance, he said: I produce this scripture as a specimen of thoroughness. I do not propose to unfold and dwell upon the thought involved in it simply, but to employ it as an illustration of thoroughness. The paternity of the word thorough is not in the imperial Latin nor in the sonorous Greek; but, as its guttural harshness implies, in the Saxon. Thoroughness is of the identical root. It signifies thorough and through—from the root, in saying that this age is superficial we must discriminate. Our immense territory and responsibilities have developed new conditions. We have been forced to extemporize many things. The apprentice moves west and becomes the master, the druggist clerk, the responsible proprietor, the half-bred professional man the village doctor or lawyer. We gain something over the old world's careful training in our freedom and necessity. We haven't the *ecce materfamilia* of the French yet, which takes children at the age of six and mothers them with instruction, &c.

The scepticism of the day is largely rooted in superficial scholarship, whose facts need verifying and whose theories substantiating superficial schools and trades and religion. Not that we expect to experience God's grace in the precise form as of old, but still we feel too little on the word and the approved spiritual standards. This text describes the attributes of thoroughness. "The word of God," "God speaks, and it will be done." He commanded, and it stood fast. He said, "Let there be light, and there was light." The spheres there are His syllables—the universe His poem. Jesus in His higher spiritual word, the logos, &c., "is quick," i. e., living. A word is not a puff of air, not a burden of dead words coming hot from an earnest heart never dies. Shakespeare's words are vital after 300 years; Demosthenes after 2,100; Socrates and Plato after 2,500; Homer's words are "powerful." What is the dynamic force which transforms a nation of slaves to a free and revolutionary government itself. The entire text was thus fully enlarged upon to arrive at the elements of thoroughness.

This book analyzes and dissects a man. Christ was thorough in His teaching, His remarks were made by several gentlemen, an executive committee, composed of the president and secretary of the club, and Gen. W. W. Dudley, for the purpose of making necessary arrangements, was appointed. Gen. Dudley was then called for, and said that he was glad to hear of the committee had shown in the past, and said he wished to be hereafter counted in the rank and file of the club.

against God. His holiness and purity. It is just as thorough in the remedy. It is new birth—from death unto life—saving body, soul and spirit. The Christian heaven is alone desirable. It is to become an intimate friend of God and forever. It is God's holy love and fellowship with Him. Though so radical it is easy to enter the kingdom. It is knock, ask, seek, believe and you shall be saved. "Whosoever will let him come." It is the wide open door. Oh, sword of the spirit! with God's command and His obduracy, our impotence, and ingratitude! and grant "that we may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth and length, and depth and height, and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, and that we may be filled with all the fullness of God."

INDIAN MISSIONS.

INTERESTING SERVICES AT THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—INSTRUCTIVE ADDRESS.

The Fourth Presbyterian church was well filled last night by a congregation deeply interested in the missionary work now being carried on among the Indians. Mr. Viles read the secretary's report, and Mr. McPherson the treasurer's, both of which showed marked progress made in the work.

Mr. J. O. Dorsey, who has spent many years among the Dakota, Omaha, and Omaha Indians, gave an interesting and instructive account of their different languages, customs, religions, beliefs, government, laws, traditions, and daily life. He showed that the Indian was a human being, with virtues and vices, possessed of some strong elements of character, which, when trained under the discipline of Christian civilization, would be productive of value in the economy of his relations with the requirements of the age. The speaker, describing succinctly by Mr. Dorsey, emphatically answered in the negative the question whether the Indians should be exterminated.

Mr. Dorsey dwelt at some length on this point, and his account of the progress made by the Indians in the white men's better ways was not only interesting in the highest degree, but a surprise even to those having great faith in the possibilities of the Indian character. Heretofore the Indian has been regarded as a savage, and the rougher kind of whites. The influence of the missionary was counteracted by that of the teamster, the trapper, and the voyager. The promulgation of the maxim that the "only good Indian was a dead Indian" reflected upon both whites and Indians. Hitherto the Indian has not had a choice. He is getting it now partially, and is improving it with a docility, an aptness, a rapidity, astonishing alike to his friends and his enemies. The wisdom of treating the Indian as a human being is shown in the fruits such a plan is bearing.

Mr. Frank La Flesche read a short but pointed speech, which put into a sentence the secret of civilizing the Indians, which has been the aim of the missionaries.

The Congregational church was crowded at both morning and evening services yesterday. In the evening Dr. Rankin preached from the 31st verse, 21st chapter of revelations, descriptive of the holy city. Applying this text to the church, he said that the church is the temple of God, which He shall work for you this day for the Egyptians. Whom ye have seen this day ye shall see them again no more forever. God shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace."

Here we see something of the character of Moses. In an emergency, having no specific orders, he rested on a general promise. He did not allow the people to be scattered by fright, and he did not, contrary to the text, turn upon their foes. The first would have shown a lack of faith; the second would have been presuming on the miracles God must work in order to preserve the people. He yielded to neither of the temptations. Not knowing the mind of God, he simply assured the people that God would fight for them, and he encouraged them to stand still and see salvation. Then he turned to God and cried until at length the Jehovah gave the command, "Speak to the children of Israel that they go forward."

SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSIONS.

The regular monthly meeting of the Foundry Sunday School Missionary society yesterday afternoon was sufficiently agreeable to mark the bright day and draw an interested and attentive audience. After the usual opening exercises a special programme was given. Mr. H. H. Craft rendered in an able and excellent style the solo from the oratorio of Esther, "Lo, O'er the Wicked!" Miss May Chandler read "The Three Bidders" in a pleasant and effective manner. Miss Gertrude Wilson, the accomplished and bright little daughter of Mr. Frank A. Wilson, the popular chorister of the church, sang a pretty solo, entitled "The Hush of the Night." An anonymous prize essay was read by an officer of the society for the writer.

Miss Hattie Craft's class having during the month contributed the largest amount to the missionary fund was awarded the prize banner.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

The Fifteenth Presbyterian church was comfortably filled yesterday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. Owing to some misunderstanding about the time and place a full representation of Sabbath schools was not in attendance. The exercises were opened by singing "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," followed by prayer. It was stated that it was both advisable and necessary that the schools should combine so that a suitable representation might be had at the international convention of Sabbath schools next year. The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted. The idea of forming the union of schools is regarded as a weighty means for extending the principles of Christianity. Interesting remarks were made by several gentlemen, present. Messrs. Smith, Meriwether, Vance, and Harris, and Miss Baldwin were appointed a committee to arrange a programme for the next meeting. Mr. Cormick, the superintendent, and the teachers are all very much interested and expressed their thanks for the kind words of the speaker.

Indiana Republican Club.

A large and enthusiastic meeting of the Indiana Republican club was held at Timm's hall Saturday night. Gen. Dudley having declined the office of president Mr. W. W. Curry was elected, as were the following officers: Vice president, D. P. Holloway; secretary, William H. Mattingly; financial secretary, F. M. Gideon; treasurer, J. C. Lotz; corresponding secretary, Benjamin Hall, Jr. After some discussion as to a reception to Christ was then called for, and said that he was glad to hear of the committee had shown in the past, and said he wished to be hereafter counted in the rank and file of the club.

LIEUT. MEIGS'S DEATH.

Alex. Hunter Reviews Mr. Yeager's Statement—What a Citizen of Harrisonburg Told Mr. Baldwin.

To the Editor.

HUNTER'S ACCOUNT.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 7.—So the real facts of the death of Lieut. Meigs are doubted and my historical reminiscence called a fiction! I have but told the tale I heard it a thousand times, and in every respect it was corroborated by facts and actual proofs from the people of the valley.

Martin has the bullet-missed and battered—that was taken out of his body, lying on the mantelpiece at his home, a relic of the encounter, and that bullet came out of Lieut. Meigs's pistol. The history of the fight has never been questioned. Gen. Wickham, vice president of the Chesapeake and Ohio railway, Maj. Scott, author of the "Life of Mosby," Gen. Fitz Lee, and Gen. Beverley Robinson, of Washington, can all substantiate every particular of my account. Gen. William Bayne, of Warrenton, commander of the Black Horse cavalry, wrote, over his own signature, a history of Martin's encounter with Meigs for the *Southern Historical Magazine*, and it differed in no wise from mine.

Mr. Yeager misconstrues my statement for two reasons. One is that he saw Lieut. Meigs a short time before his death, and the other that it is preposterous to imagine that Lieut. Meigs surrendered, with his two orders, to two men. Mr. Yeager evidently never saw a soldier during the war, or a soldier either, except perhaps through a spyglass. Lieut. Meigs did not surrender. I don't call sending a bullet through his foe's body a surrender. He died unsundering and unconquered. Again, this military critic laughs at the idea of three men surrendering to two, ignoring the fact that the three had their pistols in their holsters, and were all unprepared for any fighting, while the two had them covered by their revolvers. What would you, or I, or any man do with a pistol at our head, held by a steady hand and with a steady finger on the trigger, that would press the fatal piece of steel at the slightest hesitancy to surrender. How often have a couple of road agents in the western territories captured a treasure-bearing stage, guarded by a half a dozen brave and fearless men, who threw up their hands just because the road agents had the drop on them? There is no argument on God's earth so potent as a cocked revolver, and it is as dangerous and deadly as if a whole battery of artillery, loaded with round shot, grape, and canister, were pointed at you. One man with a cocked pistol can spring suddenly out from behind a bush and capture a half dozen ninety-nine times out of a hundred. "Throw your hands down," Lieut. Meigs said to the three men who were his captives. "Who will set the example?" There is no unity of will. Life is never so sweet and death never so abhorrent as when his skeleton hand reaches out to clutch us. How many thousands of prisoners—brave men as we live—were captured by Mosby and the Black Horse? These sudden attacks is a matter of record. It was rare, exceedingly rare, that any man or parties of soldiers would attempt resistance when caught, as the union cavalry used to term it, with their breeches down. Lieut. Meigs and the other three men were taken by surprise. Had he attempted an open resistance he would have been killed instantly, without a shadow of a chance for his life. He practiced a desperate ruse, and came near being successful. This war critic says: "Would Gen. Sheridan have ordered he did to burn every house for five miles around Lieut. Meigs been slain in fair combat?" Gen. Sheridan did not attempt to find out immediately upon receipt of the news of Lieut. Meigs's death within the lines he gave his historical order. This is a matter of record. Calm, even, impartial history does not seek to palliate the act. Its consequences were fearful; and Mosby, who well knew the circumstances under which Lieut. Meigs was killed, gave orders to his men to hang every soldier in blue who could be identified by the citizens in the valley as aiding or assisting in the burning of their houses. Then began a system of reprisals that it would be well to veil our eyes and forget. Many, very many, brave and gallant cavalrymen on both sides were killed or shot as soon as captured. This, too, is a matter of record.

The facts of Lieut. Meigs have never been questioned on the other side of the Potomac. It was as fair as a deadly contest as ever old Fredricksburg saw. There is no jealousy now between the paladins of the two armies. They can appreciate and estimate justly each other's deeds. Together the blue and the gray might conquer the world, and if there was a foreign war today a quarter of the old veterans, who followed the southern cross through thick and thin would be found fighting, as they know how to fight, beneath the stars and stripes. For four years after the war Josiah Martin rode the mare of Lieut. Meigs, a splendid bay, and it was during the last year of the war considered the finest animal in Wickham's brigade.

The Martin boys, three in number, were famous for their exploits. They all belonged to the Black Horse. Robert, the eldest, rode a fine white horse, and was an English soldier as being the bravest man in the confederate army. Richard, the second brother, carried the dispatch from Stonewall Jackson, at Harper's Ferry, Sept. 16, 1862, to Lee, at Sharpsburg, announcing the capture of the place and killed a Federal soldier in the process, and Josiah, the youngest, is the survivor of that deadly conflict in which he killed his antagonist, and came so near being killed himself that it was only one of those seeming miracles that he recovered. I am an untrained fiction, but, naked, frozen fact, the veracious signal officer undertakes to combat my history by expressing his own disbelief. He has a perfect right to do that; but when he attempts to combat logic by not one particle of evidence he slips up lamentably, and shows one thing very clearly, that while he may have been a good signal officer he was no soldier, or he would not talk about such nonsense as a brave man not surrendering unless surrounded by twenty men, and it being dishonorable to use any ruse in war, except and solely in the matter of a parole. How many veterans of Grant's army must have smiled over his warlike conclusions I don't know—every one probably who read it. Beside Mr. Yeager, Josiah was a charlatan and a vaunter a novice.

To those who can be convinced I refer them to the last number of the *Philadelphia Weekly Times*, in an article written for the annals of the war by that scholar and gallant soldier, Maj. Kyd Douglas, of date April 7, 1883, who says: "About that time Lieut. Meigs, Sheridan's staff, was killed while scouting by a confederate scout, and Gen. Sheridan ordered all the houses within an area of five miles to be burned as a holocaust upon his foot."

I close my case. ALEX. HUNTER.

SHOT AT LONG RANGE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 7.—In 1872 the writer was told by a well-known citizen of Harrisonburg, Va., that he saw Lieut. Meigs shot, at long range, by a scout stationed on the mountain, while that officer was reconnoitering through his glasses. The circumstances under which the story was related were such as to leave no doubt in my mind of its truthfulness. WM. D. BALDWIN.

The Theatre Comique.

Joe Dowling's excellent dramatic and specialty company begins an engagement at the Theatre Comique to-night. Some interesting novelties are introduced in the olio, and the border drama, "Nobody's Claim," contains many amusing and thrilling situations. There will be matinees Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

The Royal Hall Ringers.

To-night at Lincoln hall the Royal English Bell Ringers and Walter Pelham, the famous English humorist, will commence their engagement of a week. There can be found no more delightful entertainment than those to see the reports of the different committees showed a growing interest in this much needed national work. After giving a vote of thanks to the lady correspondents of Washington, who have put before the reading public of the country the need of such an institution, the meeting adjourned until the first Saturday in May.

JEFFERSON'S MONUMENT.

A Washington Stonecutter to Erect the New Granite Shaft at Monticello.

Mr. D. McMenamin, the well known monument builder of Capitol Hill, left the city last evening for Charlottesville, Va., where he will erect, during the coming week, a granite shaft over the grave of Thomas Jefferson at Monticello. Congress appropriated \$10,000 for this shaft, which is to replace the one clipped away and destroyed by ruthless relic hunters. The original shaft was nine feet at the base and eighteen feet high. It is of granite from the old Ordway quarry near Richmond, the same place at which the granite for the new State, War, and Navy departments is being procured, and weighs nine tons. A force of McMenamin's men left here for Monticello on Saturday evening. "The only thing that bothers me," said Mr. McMenamin to a *REPUBLICAN* reporter at the depot last night, "is to get the stone up the mountain to the site; but if the roads are good we will not have much trouble."

It will be remembered by those who have been there that there is considerable of a hill for pedestrians to climb before reaching the last resting place of the great statesman, but, once there, the sight down the valley of Virginia and beyond to the Alleghenies is a magnificent panorama of nature's handiwork.

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